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TELCON  
Mr. ~~KXXXX~~ Ed Klein  
Sec. Kissinger  
March 26, 1975  
5:00 p.m.

RELEASED IN PART  
B6

K: How are you.

EK: Very well. I wanted you to know I watched your news conference and found it very impressive. You must be exhausted.

K: Thank you. It was a hectic trip.

EK: -I can imagine.

K: And you know it is a little sad when you see what is likely to happen.

EK: I left a message yesterday.

K: I didn't get it. What was it.

EK: Last night on WETA -- our public broadcasting station there -- I had Amb. Martin, Walt Rostow and Pete McCloskey and Tony Lake for an hour.

K:   Tony Lake is making a project out of working for me for 6 months five years ago.

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EK: I was disappointed in him. I had hoped he would come on strong and would hold up his end of the debate.

K: Does he know what his end of the debate is.

EK: I think an avowed dove, isn't he?

K: Sort of.

EK: Martin was what one might expect. He felt very deeply -- I am not sure he comes across so well on television and Rostow was very rastovian. Pete McCloskey was very good. He is good on television.

K: I think we all have to look at Vietn-Nam now again.

EK: He did not seem to know where he stood. I asked him where he stood and he said he was confused. On the one hand he thinks further aid should be given but the three year plan that Martin briefly outlined on the program was more than Congress could be expected to appropriate.

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K: Yes.

EK: I thought it went very well. I wondered if you had had any further thoughts given -- we are doing a cover this week on you. You will be the subject of the cover which comes out next Tuesday and will be done by the cartoonist John Kunar (sp).

K: In other words, I will be bleeding all over.

EK: Almost. I hope this is in strictest confidence.

K: Nothing I can do except complain to Kay Graham.

EK: It is a representation of you as Gulliver being tied down by the Congress, by the Archbishop Makarioses of the world.

K: That's not too bad.

EK: And the North Vietnamese.

K: That doesn't sound unfriendly.

EK: It isn't. I think if you have been reading what we do we have not been unfriendly. I read Time this week and I think the editorial Time story was --

K: I did not read it.

EK: It said it is time to get out of VN. Enough of shit stuff. Sort of a negative reaction.

K: The problem in Viet-nam -- I don't know whether it would have worked in the Middle East this time under any conditions but it is sort of scary when sitting there with Asad saying why is Sadat making concession whe you are going to let Israeli go. I said we are not. He said you let Cambodia, V-Nm, Turkey, now perhaps Portugal -- maybe that is different. That is one side but on the other side you can read the Israeli newspapers and see what they have been saying. Right now, the issue for me has nothing to do with Viet-Nam but has to do with the fact that the American authority to preserve the peace in the world is declining. If it declines too much, we will live in a very dangerous environment and the real problem is I would settle for anything that would get the national debate off our back.

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EK: I will ask you again.

K: I know, I guess it is the TV think.

EK: Yes.

K: I have it very much in mind. I have two obligations -- one to Barbara Walters and another one for three years to Bill Buckley which I unwisely gave and I have to fulfill. How late in the year can I do yours. Would May still work for you.

EK: It would work. Let me tell you what I have in mind. There are two approaches. One, I originally broached ~~you~~ with you. The more personal approach. I am not certain at this point that that is the best approach for you. Do you want it on a policy level or personal level. If personally, I don't think they would conflict with any prior commitments since Barbara Walters thing would be a 20 minute thing on the morning program. This would be an hour on PBS. As I said originally more of a ~~person-to-person thing~~ person-to-person thing. On the other hand, if you prefer to do more of a tour of the horizon, I can understand you have these prior commitments and I suppose that is as good a time as any.

K: Now that I am back for a while, I will get in touch with you again or you bug me.

EK: I will bug you.

K: I don't mind that.

EK: Thank you.

K: Best to your children.

EK: Thank you.

END

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